

In the Claims

Please amend the claims as follows.

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1. (currently amended) A system for personalizing a multiple page, bound document, comprising:  
an input mechanism constructed to receive hold a plurality of the bound documents to be personalized;

a plurality of first and second leafing mechanisms disposed downstream from said input mechanism, ~~each said first and second leafing mechanism~~ mechanisms each including an apparatus for turning pages of the document, and said first leafing mechanism is disposed upstream of said second leafing mechanism; and

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a plurality of first and second personalization mechanisms disposed downstream from said input mechanism, ~~each said said first personalization mechanism~~ mechanism being capable of performing a personalization operation on a page of the document that is different from a personalization operation performed by said second personalization mechanism, and said first personalization mechanism is disposed upstream of said second personalization mechanism; and

wherein said first and second leafing mechanisms and said first and second personalization mechanisms are arranged so that, ~~for at least two of said personalization mechanisms, there is one said said first leafing mechanism is disposed upstream of each of said two personalization mechanisms~~ said first personalization mechanism and said second leafing mechanism is disposed upstream of said second personalization mechanism.

2. (currently amended) The system of claim 1, wherein at least one of said ~~two~~ first and second personalization mechanisms comprises a laser personalizing module that includes a laser for laser personalizing a page of the bound document.

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3. (canceled)

4. (previously amended) The system of claim 1, wherein said input mechanism is configured to hold the bound documents in a closed configuration.

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5. (canceled)

6. (currently amended) The system of claim 1, wherein at least one of said ~~two~~ first and second personalization mechanisms comprises a printer mechanism that is configured to perform printing on a selected page of the bound document.

7. (previously canceled)

8. (currently amended) The system of claim 6, wherein said printer mechanism and one of said first and second leafing mechanisms are combined into a single module.

9. (previously amended) The system of claim 6, wherein said printer mechanism includes a print head, and further including a recirculating mechanism for recirculating the bound document to a location upstream of the print head after printing by the print head.

10. (canceled)

11. (canceled)

12. (currently amended) The system of claim 1, ~~wherein at least one of said plurality of personalization mechanisms comprises~~ further comprising an integrated circuit chip module.

13. (canceled)

14. (currently amended) The system of claim 1, wherein at least one of said first and second leafing mechanisms is configured to pass the document therethrough without turning a page of the document.

15. (currently amended) The system of claim 1, wherein at least one of said first and second personalization mechanisms is configured to pass the document therethrough without performing a personalization operation.

16. (original) The system of claim 1, wherein the bound document is a passport.

17. (currently amended) A method of personalizing a multiple page, bound document, comprising:

inputting a bound document into a first leafing mechanism;  
turning to a first preselected page using the first leafing mechanism;  
inputting the document into a first personalization mechanism;  
performing a personalization operation on the first preselected page; and  
inputting the bound document into a second leafing mechanism downstream from the first personalization mechanism, and turning to a second preselected page.

18. (currently amended) The method of claim 17, wherein the first personalization mechanism comprises a laser personalization module, and performing a personalization operation comprises performing a laser personalization operation.

19. (original) The method of claim 18, wherein the laser personalization operation comprises at least one of laser engraving or laser perforation.

20. (currently amended) The method of claim 17, wherein an input mechanism ~~containing~~ holding a plurality of the bound documents is located upstream of said first leafing mechanism, and further including mechanically picking a bound document from the input mechanism and inputting the picked document into the first leafing mechanism.

~~21. (previously amended) The method of claim 17, further including discharging a personalized bound document into an output mechanism.~~

22. (currently amended) The method of claim 17, further including inputting the document into a second personalization mechanism downstream from the second leafing mechanism, and performing a personalization operation on the second preselected page.

23. (original) The method of claim 17, further including closing the document.

24. (currently amended) The method of claim 17, wherein the first personalization mechanism comprises an integrated circuit chip module, and performing a personalization operation comprises using the integrated circuit chip module to program an integrated circuit chip on the document.

25. (original) The method of claim 17, wherein the document is a passport.

26. (previously canceled)

27. (previously canceled)

28. (previously added) A system for personalizing a multiple page, bound document, comprising:

a plurality of personalization mechanisms each of which is capable of performing a personalization operation on one or more pages of the document; and

a plurality of leafing mechanisms each of which includes apparatus for turning pages of the document;

wherein the personalization mechanisms and leafing mechanisms are arranged such that for each said personalization mechanism that performs a personalization function on a page of the document that is different from a page personalized by a preceding one of said personalization mechanisms, there is one of said leafing mechanisms associated with each said personalization mechanism for turning to <sup>a</sup>the correct page.

29. (new) The system of claim 1, wherein at least one of said first and second leafing mechanisms includes apparatus for fully opening the bound document to define first and second

document halves, and one of said first and second personalization mechanisms comprises a printer mechanism that includes a print head and a mechanism for maintaining a generally constant distance between the first and second halves and the print head during printing.

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30. (new) The system of claim 29, wherein the mechanism for maintaining a generally constant distance comprises a first roller supporting the first half, and a second roller supporting the second half and spaced from the first roller defining a gap therebetween.

31. (new) The system of claim 30, wherein the bound document includes a spine, and the spine is positioned in the gap between the first and second rollers during printing.

32. (new) The system of claim 1, wherein the system includes a transport path, and the input mechanism comprises a receptacle for holding a plurality of the bound documents, the axis of the receptacle being disposed at an angle to the transport path so that bound documents held by the receptacle are out of the transport path.

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